



City of Chicago



R2016-61

Office of the City Clerk

Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:	1/13/2016
Sponsor(s):	Emanuel (Mayor) Burke (14)
Type:	Resolution
Title:	Tribute to late Nancy Franco-Maldonado
Committee(s) Assignment:	

SUSP.



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

RAHM EMANUEL
MAYOR

January 13, 2016

TO THE HONORABLE, THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I transmit herewith together with Alderman Burke, a resolution honoring the life and memory of Nancy Franco Maldonado.

Your favorable consideration of this resolution will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

Mayor

A resolution

adopted by *The City Council*
of the *City of Chicago, Illinois*



Presented by Mayor Rahm Emanuel & Alderman Edward M. Burke on January 13, 2016

Whereas, Nancy Franco-Maldonado has gone to her eternal reward; and

WHEREAS, The Chicago City Council has been informed of her passing by Mayor Rahm Emanuel and Alderman Edward M. Burke; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Franco-Maldonado was the loving wife of the Honorable Roberto Maldonado, the Alderman of the 26th Ward and a former Cook County Commissioner; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Franco-Maldonado was the much-adored mother of Rene, Roberto II and Raquel to whom she imparted values of character, strength and kindness; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Franco-Maldonado also leaves behind her parents, Felicitia Montanez and Hector Franco, and many beloved aunts, relatives and friends; and

WHEREAS, Born on January 13, 1970, into a family of community activists, Nancy Franco-Maldonado was raised in the Humboldt Park neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, Educated in the Catholic school system, Nancy Franco-Maldonado graduated from St. Boniface Elementary School, Holy Trinity High School and Rosary College in River Forest; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Franco-Maldonado worked for fifteen years as a mortgage underwriter and later as an auditor for Household Bank International; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Franco-Maldonado eventually left her profession to raise her children and devote more time to advancing the goals and aspirations of her community; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Franco-Maldonado reached out to assist single mothers by coordinating turkey giveaways and boot drives and actively supported the Save Our Seniors Foundation (S.O.S.) and the LGBT community; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Franco-Maldonado was a trusted sounding board for her husband and served as his chief political advisor during his two aldermanic election campaigns, a role in which she helped to shape and define key policy initiatives; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Franco-Maldonado actively supported the building of the 65th Infantry Borinqueneers Building to provide affordable housing for Latino veterans; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Franco-Maldonado envisioned the construction of the Paseo Boricua Arts Building, a mixed-use building designed to provide affordable residences for artists with commercial space and a theater on the ground floor; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Franco-Maldonado campaigned to name the Humboldt Park Library Branch for veteran Congressman Luis V. Gutierrez; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Franco-Maldonado encouraged young, first-time homeowners to invest in the 26th Ward, many of whom became the next generation of Humboldt Park residents; and

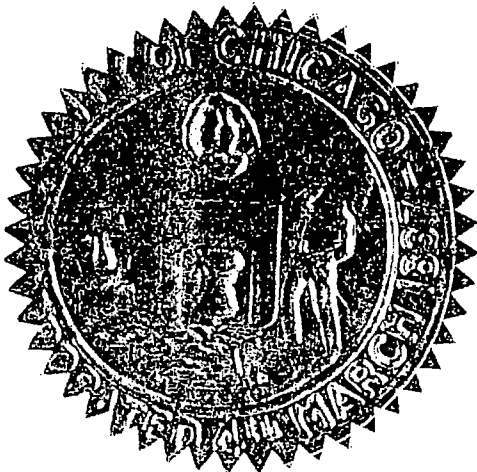
WHEREAS, The vision, sacrifice and dedication of Nancy Franco-Maldonado serve as an example to all; and

WHEREAS, A woman of elegance, grace and charm, Nancy Franco-Maldonado will be dearly missed and fondly remembered by her many relatives, friends and admirers; and

WHEREAS, To her beloved family, Nancy Franco-Maldonado imparts a legacy of faithfulness, service and dignity; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and the members of the Chicago City Council, assembled this thirteenth day of January, 2016, do hereby commemorate Nancy Franco-Maldonado for her grace-filled life and do hereby express our condolences to her family; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Nancy Franco-Maldonado.



Ral Emanuel

Mayor

Susma A. Mendez

City Clerk

**Prepared Statement
For
Alderman Roberto Maldonado**

**Chicago City Council Meeting
January 13, 2016**

Mr. President and Members of the Chicago City Council, today is my wife Nancy's 46th Birthday. While she is now in heaven, we both mourn and celebrate her life, especially on this day, her birthday. Although she had great humility, she would have been proud of this special recognition so I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Nancy was gentle in her spirit and soft in her voice but she did not take life lightly. She approached each and every day with a serious resolve to make the lives of her children, her family, her friends, her neighbors, and her community the best that it could be.

Nancy was a natural born leader and a perfectionist who demanded no less from those around her. Which is why I am a better man and politician; which is why our son Rene is a state champion swimmer who excels academically at Jones College Prep; which is why our son Roberto II is a talented piano player and straight A student; and which is why our daughter Raquel, like her mom, is a natural leader who works hard to become the best ballerina and a champion swimmer in the making.

Nancy's commitment to social justice pervaded every aspect of her life - which is no surprise as the daughter of a leading community activist, Hector Franco. Whether it was guiding me to clear a path against community opposition to help veterans in the ward gain new affordable housing; urging me to propose legislation to

require banks to pay their fair share of real estate transfer taxes on foreclosed properties; or helping struggling families through her community activism and charitable efforts – Nancy cared deeply about making the world a better place by giving everyone an opportunity to be their best.

Nancy was not one to shy away from human rights struggles that affected her community – even the most controversial. She was deeply devoted to her Puerto Rican heritage and wanted future generations to remember the historical challenges the community faced. Which is why she proudly advocated for the naming of the Hispanic Housing Senior building located at 3949 West North Avenue after the Puerto Rican political prisoner Oscar Lopez Rivera, formerly a decorated Vietnam War veteran

and respected community activist, and now the longest-held political prisoner by the U.S. government.

Nancy was beautiful and intelligent, but despite those God-given gifts and talents, what she taught us was that with *love* you could accomplish anything.

I - We - were fortunate to be part of her spectacular journey on this earth.

She left us far too soon. But we will never forget her because she continues to change our lives and guide us to the best that we can be.